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Notice of Allowability	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/777,386		CHONDROUDIS ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Patricia L. Hailey		1755	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an Amendment after Final Rejection filed May 16, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5-15,19-37 and 39-56.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
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Applicants' Amendment after Final Rejection, filed on May 16, 2006, has been made of record and entered. In this amendment, claim 4 has been canceled; no new claims have been added.

Claims 1-3, 5-15, 19-37, and 39-56 remain pending in this application.

Withdrawn Rejections

The 103(a) rejection of claims 1-3, 7, 8, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-30, 47, 48, and 50-56 as being unpatentable over French Patent No. 2, 315,318, stated in the Final Rejection, has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment and in view of Applicants' persuasive arguments traversing this rejection.

The provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-15, 19-37, and 39-56 as being unpatentable over claims 1-7, 10-16, 18-23, 31-34, 36, 38, 39, 42, and 4-46 of copending Application No. 10/777,482 has been withdrawn, as this rejection is the remaining rejection of record, and both the instant application and the copending '482 application have the same effective filing date. See MPEP 804.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3, 5-15, 19-37, and 39-56 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest the claimed process of forming supported metal-containing powder, wherein a dispersion of a particulate support in a solution is formed (said solution comprising a solvent and a dissolved metal, and said particulate support comprising a pre-deposited material), heat is removed from the dispersion to precipitate the dissolved metal from the solution onto the support and to freeze the solution, the support is separated from the frozen solution by freeze-drying to yield the supported metal-containing powder (comprising the particulate support and a precipitated metal thereon), wherein, during said separation, at least a portion of the frozen solution is allowed to melt, and an alloy is formed on said particulate support, said alloy comprising metals derived from the pre-deposited material and the precipitated metal.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

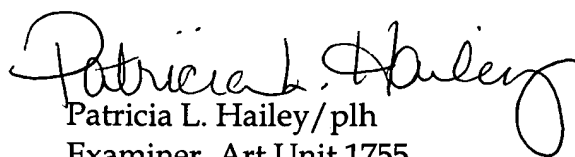
These references have been reviewed and are considered cumulative to provide technological background with respect to the claimed invention.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia L. Hailey whose telephone number is (571) 272-1369. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo, can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 1700 Receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Patricia L. Hailey/plh
Examiner, Art Unit 1755
June 21, 2006


J. A. LORENGO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER